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BRIAN PULIDO'S

# Locky Death

A MEDIEVAL  
TALE



CrossGen



00811

crossgen.com

Brian Pulido   Fabrizio Fiorentino   Ted Pertzborn   Chris Blythe





Lady  
Death



Wolf



Thorm



Bishop  
Vittorio

## THUS FAR IN LADY DEATH

Amidst a harrowing battle between warrior knights and the otherworldly Eldritch, a child is conceived. Blood of both clans, she belongs to neither. Years later, the child, Hope, is reborn as Lady Death.

In the aftermath of the battle of Novgorod, Lady Death saves several worshippers from a church fire, but is scorned by them due to her Eldritch appearance.

In the Eldritch realm Aglarond, Thorm Gara prepares for full-scale war on the human villages.

On earth, greedy Archbishop Krakhauser is fatally replaced by the charismatic Bishop Vittorio.

Finally, while she sleeps, Lady Death is visited by a shrouded intruder...



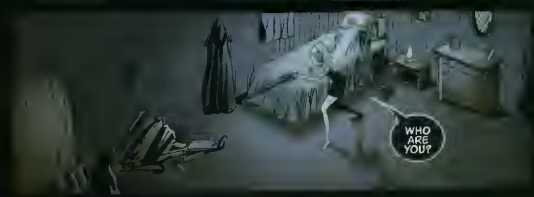






WHO  
GOES  
THERE?







A close-up of a woman with pale skin, white hair styled in a high ponytail with a jeweled headband, and dark eye makeup. She is wearing a dark, patterned dress with gold buttons. Her expression is one of pleading or desperation.

I AM  
CAPRICE. I HAVE  
JOURNEYED FROM  
AGLAROND TO  
ASK FOR YOUR  
HELP

A wide shot of a room with a wooden floor and a large bed. A woman in a blue dress (Auntie Hope) is standing near the bed, looking towards the left. A dark figure is visible in the background.

AUNTIE  
HOPE--

A wide shot of the same room. Auntie Hope is now on the bed, looking towards the left. A dark figure is visible in the background.

IT'S  
ONE OF  
THEM!

A close-up of Caprice looking up at Auntie Hope. Caprice has a pleading expression. Auntie Hope is looking down at her.

WAIT  
PLEASE

I BRING  
NEWS OF  
TVARUS, OUR  
FATHER...  
SISTER





HALF-SISTER,  
BY THE LOOKS  
OF YOU,

WHAT  
ABOUT  
HIM?

TVARUS  
IS IN GRAVE  
DANGER



HOPE!  
KILL IT AND  
BE QUICK  
ABOUT  
IT!



I MUST QUIET  
YOUR PET BUT  
FEAR NOT

--MY SPELL SIMPLY  
ENSURES HE WON'T BOTHER  
US AND WILL HEAR NONE  
OF THIS

DON'T!

BUT IT IS  
DONE



DAMNED  
ELDRITCH  
WITCH!

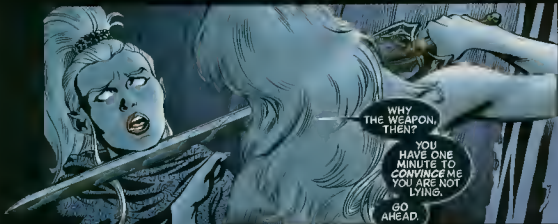
LET ME  
FREE!



I'M  
SCARED  
AUNTIE  
HOPE!

I'M  
SCARED!





WHY  
THE WEAPON,  
THEN?

YOU  
HAVE ONE  
MINUTE TO  
CONVINCE ME  
YOU ARE NOT  
LYING.

GO  
AHEAD.

I BROUGHT THE  
DAGGER TO  
DEFEND MYSELF  
A LONE ELDRITCH  
AMONG HUMANS  
IS AN EASY  
TARGET

BUT  
THAT IS NOT  
WHY I AM  
HERE

IT'S FATHER  
HIS BROTHER  
THORM GARA HAS  
USURPED OUR  
FATHER'S RULE

WHY?

BECAUSE  
OF YOU

MATING WITH  
HUMANS IS  
FORBIDDEN



IS THAT WHY  
THE ELDRITCH  
HUNTING PARTY  
ATTACKED  
NOVGOROD?

EXACTLY  
THIS IS WHERE  
YOU WERE CONCEIVED  
YOU ARE CONSIDERED A  
GREAT EMBARRASSMENT  
TO THE NOBLE RULING  
CLASS OF AGLAROND  
TO US, HUMANS ARE  
WORSE THAN  
VERMIN

YOU  
SHOULD WATCH  
YOUR TONGUE  
WHILE YOU STILL  
HAVE ONE.

FOR HIS CRIME FATHER  
WAS SENTENCED TO  
THE WELF HOLES FOR  
ALL ETERNITY

WELF  
HOLES?

THE WELF ARE JAILERS  
AND THEIR CELLS EXIST  
IN A PLACE OUTSIDE OUR  
REALITY-FATHERS AS GOOD  
AS DEAD IF HE'S NOT  
RESCUED

TIME PASSES  
STRANGELY IN THE  
HOLES. ONE CYCLE  
IN AGLAROND COULD  
BE A CENTURY IN  
THE HOLES!



PROVE IT.

SISTER...  
LOOK INTO  
MY EYES AND  
YOU WILL  
SEE

FATHER'S  
REIGN WAS  
JUST--HE IS  
A GOOD  
AND FAIR  
RULER

UNDER  
THORM WE  
WILL ONLY  
KNOW  
WAR

BEHOLD...

**NO!**  
PLEASE MOTHER!  
FREE HIM!

THE  
REALM DEMANDS  
JUSTICE. CAPRICE  
TVARUS MUST PAY  
THE PRICE FOR HIS  
WEAKNESS

FATHER!

WHY  
DON'T  
YOU SAVE  
HIM?

WHY  
ME?

SHHHH  
ISABELLE  
YOU ARE  
SAFE WITH  
ME

I AM NO WARRIOR  
BUT YOU--YOU ARE  
DIFFERENT

WE ALL  
HEARD THAT  
YOU SHAMED  
THORM  
GARA

IF ANYONE  
COULD SAVE  
FATHER IT  
WOULD BE  
YOU





IF FATHER COULD  
BE LIBERATED AND  
RETURNED TO RULE A  
WAR BETWEEN OUR  
RACES COULD BE  
AVERTED

WILL  
YOU DO  
THIS? SAVE  
HIM?

LEAD ME  
THERE.

I CANNOT  
YOU...MUST FIND  
YOUR OWN WAY



PUT THAT  
DOWN.

IS  
THIS YOUR  
MOTHER?

IT'S NONE  
OF YOUR  
BUSINESS.

HOW  
WILL I FIND  
MY WAY?

HEAD DUE  
NORTH. SEEK THE  
BORDERBRIDGE  
CROSS IT AND YOU  
WILL FIND YOUR  
WAY

BUT  
BE QUICK. TIME  
WASTES AWAY IN  
THE WELF HOLES

I HEARD SHE DIED. HUMANS ARE  
SO FRAIL. YOU WILL LOSE YOUR  
FATHER TOO UNLESS



LIFT THE  
SPELL ON  
WOLF.

AS YOU  
WISH



IT CAN MOVE  
AND HEAR  
NOW



SISTER YOU SHOULD  
REALLY TAKE BETTER  
CONTROL OF YOUR  
PET

AT LEAST  
WASH IT IT  
SMELLS

REMEMBER  
TIME WASTES

THE ELDRITCH  
WHERE DID  
SHE GO?



GONE,  
DAMN!

NOW  
YOU START  
CONSORTING  
WITH THE  
ENEMY?!





WHAT IS  
GOING ON  
HERE?

I'M  
NOT READY TO  
DISCUSS IT YET,  
WOLF. PERHAPS  
IN THE  
MORNING.

NO.  
NOW!



THAT  
WAS AUNTIE  
HOPE'S KINDA SISTER.  
SHE SAID AUNTIE HOPE'S  
DAD WAS IN JAIL. SHE  
ASKED AUNTIE HOPE  
TO BREAK HIM OUT  
OF THERE.

AND YOU  
SAID...

I SAID...

AUNTIE  
HOPE  
SAID OKIE  
DOKIE

SHE'S  
GONNA GO  
TO SET HIM  
FREE!



UH...  
INDEED.

YOU'RE  
KIDDING.

YOU DON'T KNOW HER REASON  
FOR ASKING THIS OF YOU. SHE'S  
ELDRITCH! WHY?

NO SHE'S  
NOT KIDDING

SHE'S  
GOING AND  
THAT'S THAT.

ISN'T  
THAT RIGHT  
AUNTIE HOPE?

THIS IS  
INSANITY.





YOU'RE SERIOUS?!

I AM.

ISN'T THERE ANYTHING I CAN SAY TO CHANGE YOUR MIND?

LET ME ANSWER THAT.

NO, THERE ISN'T A THING YOU CAN DO TO CHANGE HER MIND.



WILL YOU COME SEE ME SOON, AUNTIE HOPE?

AS SOON AS I COMPLETE THIS MISSION, I'LL BE BACK. THEN WE CAN ALL TAKE SOME TIME OFF AND HEAD FOR THE LAKES

HOW ABOUT THAT?

YOU PROMISE?



PROMISE.

BYE, I AM SORRY, MARGRET, I HAVE TO DO THIS

YOU'RE STUBBORN JUST LIKE YOUR MOTHER

BE CAREFUL!

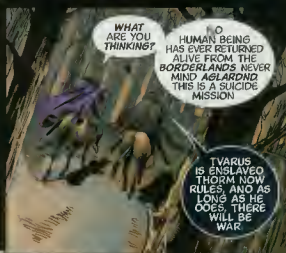
BYE, BYE!



MISTER VON BACH WOULD MAKE A NICE DADDY DON'T YOU THINK, MOMMY?

HUSH, CHILD.

YOU'RE BLUSHING, YOU THINK SO TOO HUH?



WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

NO HUMAN BEING HAS EVER RETURNED ALIVE FROM THE BORDERLANDS NEVER MIND! ASLARDND THIS IS A SUICIDE MISSION

TVARUS IS ENSLAVED THORM NOW RULES, AND AS LONG AS HE DOES, THERE WILL BE WAR



THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO MAKE IT RIGHT.





YOUR TRAINING ISN'T COMPLETE! YOU'VE DONE WELL, YES, BUT EVEN YOU MUST ADMIT THAT YOU BESTED THORM OUT OF SHEER LUCK

WHY ARE YOU BEING SO HEADSTRONG?

I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO BE A MISSIONARY?



HOPE? ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?



WOLF, I MISS HER. I MISS MY MOTHER.

THAT'S FINE, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS

BUT I DO.

WHEN I'M NEAR TVARUS, I FEEL A LITTLE BIT OF HER.

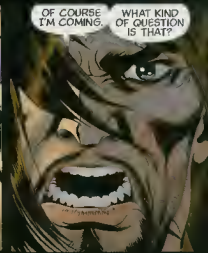


THERE'S NO USE TRYING TO CHANGE MY MIND. I'M GOING.

ARE YOU WITH ME?

YOU CAN'T FATHOM THE TRICKERY OF THOSE BONE-SKINNED DEVILS. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT CAPRICE IS PLOTTING!

ARE YOU COMING OR NOT?



OF COURSE I'M COMING.

WHAT KIND OF QUESTION IS THAT?









I'LL ASK  
THE QUESTIONS  
WOLFRAM

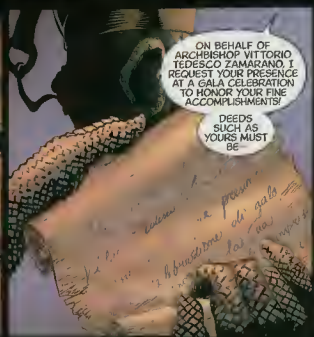
ARE YOU THE  
WOMAN WHO HELD  
THE ELDRITCH AT BAY  
AT NOVGOROD?

BUT  
HER FACE—SHE  
LOOKS LIKE THE  
ENEMY!



I AM

WHAT  
OF IT?



ON BEHALF OF  
ARCHBISHOP VITTORIO  
TEDESCO ZAMARANO, I  
REQUEST YOUR PRESENCE  
AT A GALA CELEBRATION  
TO HONOR YOUR FINE  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

DEEDS  
SUCH AS  
YOURS MUST  
BE



I'M AFRAID  
THAT WILL BE  
IMPOSSIBLE.

THANK THE  
ARCHBISHOP  
ON MY  
BEHALF.

WE  
MUST BE  
MOVING  
ON.







I'LL WAGER 266 RILLINGS THE  
WIND SWIMMER LANDS AT THE  
CASTLE'S FRONT.

CASTLE  
GARA IS  
BEAUTIFUL. EH  
SARITTAR?

LIKE  
NONE  
OTHER

I SAY  
THE BACK.  
YOU'RE ON, ULU.

THERE  
THEY ARE--  
YOU MUST BE  
SO PROUD,  
THORM.

IT COOLS  
MY HEART TO  
SEE MY SONS,  
ONCE BOYS,  
NOW GROWN  
MEN.

FATHER!

PELAGRIM!  
SARRITAR--I TRUST  
YOU COMPLETED  
YOUR FIFTH CYCLE  
OF LUNAR ENCHANT-  
MENTS?

I  
WAS FIRST  
IN MY GUILD,  
FATHER.

GOOD WORK  
SARITTAR!  
AND YOU  
PELAGRIM?

I WAS...  
ENTERTAINING.

GREETINGS.  
WELCOME  
BACK INTO THE FOLD

GODD TWILIGHT, LADY  
DESIDA. HOW FARES LORD  
TVARUSP?

I'M SURE  
YOU WERE,  
SON.

FATHER...YOU ARE WEARING  
THE CROWN OF THE  
REALM!

WE  
HAVE MUCH TO  
CATCH  
UP ON

COME  
INSIDE



AND TO  
MY DISMAY I HAD  
TO REMOVE MY  
BROTHER FROM  
THE THRONE

I AM  
HEARTBROKEN  
BUT HAVE TAKEN  
THE OATH AND  
RESPONSIBILITY  
OF LEADERSHIP

BUT  
ENOUGH OF  
THE PAST. THE  
FUTURE SITS  
BEFORE US

MORE  
KA-TARALAN  
LORD?

KEEP IT  
POURING

TONIGHT WE  
CELEBRATE THE  
RETURN OF MY SONS  
PELAGRIM AND  
SACRITAR

WITH YOU  
TWO BY MY SIDE  
AND YOU TWO  
ALONE

CLANK

-THE  
OUTCOME OF  
OUR WAR WITH  
THE HUMANS IS  
DECIDED-

MY OR  
RATHER OUR  
VICTORY IS  
ASSURED





LADY  
CAPRICE.

MILADY  
KEEP YOUR  
DISTANCE AND  
NO TRICKERY.

WE ARE  
UNDER STRICT  
ORDERS...

NO TRICKS  
NO TROUBLE. I  
SIMPLY WAGER THAT  
I MIGHT BE ALLOWED  
TO MEDITATE NEAR  
MY FATHER'S  
PRISON.



I'LL  
STAKE YOU THESE  
RANDICOTTS...

RANDICOTTS?!

SHE'S GOT  
RANDICOTTS  
ULU!

WAGERED AND  
WON! AND NOW, I  
BET 316 RILLINGS  
THAT I TURN  
FOUR CYCLES  
OLD!

I SAY  
SEVEN  
YOU'RE  
ON!

ULMPH!



BY THE  
TUFTS OF  
CLAN-KING GULRIC'S  
BROW I'VE LOST  
YET AGAIN!

HOW  
COME YOU  
GET TO  
BE FOUR  
ULU?



FATHER,  
CAN YOU  
HEAR ME?  
IF YOU  
CAN...



...KNOW THAT  
HELP IS COMING!

ASTRAGALUS,  
L-LORD OF CHAOS,  
W-WHY HAVE YOU  
ABANDONED  
ME?

AM I  
NOT YOUR CH-CHOSEN  
SON?

SO AFTER  
THIRTY-FIVE  
CYCLES THE MIGHTY  
TVARUS SPEAKS, YOU  
ARE AHEAD OF  
SCHEDULE

HAS IT  
BEEN THAT  
LONG?

IS THAT  
WHY YOU CALLED  
ME? TO BE YOUR  
TIMEKEEPER?

A  
THOUSAND  
PARDONS,  
LORD

WILL  
YOU AID  
ME?

PERHAPS,  
PERHAPS  
NOT.

FIRST YOU  
MUST ANSWER  
THESE TWO QUESTIONS  
WHAT LESSON OF  
LEADERSHIP HAVE YOU  
GLEANED FROM YOUR  
IMPRISONMENT?

WHAT MAKES  
YOU MORE WORTHY  
TO RULE THAN  
THORM?

IF YOU  
CAN ANSWER  
THOSE QUESTIONS TO  
MY SATISFACTION, I  
WILL CONSIDER YOUR  
PETITION

BUT IF  
YOU ARE WRONG,  
I SHALL **DISOWN** YOU  
AND LEAVE YOU TO  
ROT HERE







WHAH



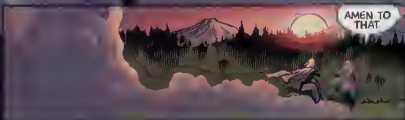
THAT'S THE  
LAST OF  
THEM!



YOU DON'T  
UNDERSTAND—

ARCHBISHOP  
VITTORIO WON'T  
TAKE THIS  
LIGHTLY!

WOLF, IF  
YOU REALLY WANT  
THINGS TO CHANGE,  
YOU HAVE TO STOP  
PLAYING BY THE  
RULES.



AMEN TO  
THAT





OH, DEAR  
LORD! CAN  
YOU SEE  
IT?

SEE  
WHAT?



ARE THEY  
CRAZED?

THEY'RE  
HEADING STRAIGHT  
FOR A CANYON!

AND HE  
CALLED US  
WINOS!

WOW, LOOKIT  
HER, SHE'S  
BEAUTIFUUUUUL  
JUWEEN

THE HALF-  
BREED IS  
HERE!

PIPE  
DOWN,  
LAT TAR!



TRUST  
ME.









I TRUST YOU.





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Fabrizio wishes to  
dedicate this book to his  
wonderful wife Tina!

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